Minutes

East TN Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) Meeting August 5, 2014

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

U T Conference Center, Knoxville TN

FAC Members Attending:

Don Loftis, Olin Corporation
John Naylor, CMAA
Debbie Davis Waltermire, Eastman Chemical
Diane Davidson, ORNL
Ken Marsh, Rail Solution
Zane Duncan, R J Corman
Ed Shouse, Knoxville TPO
Jenny Park, Chattanooga TPO
John Bennett, Aqua International
Steve Hiatt, Chattanooga Chamber

Others Attending:

Toks Omishakin, TDOT Tanisha Hall, TDOT Angie Midgett, TDOT Carlos McCloud, TDOT Bob Rock, TDOT Alan Jones, TDOT Max Baker, AECOM Lee Hutchins, AECOM Hua Liu, UTK Kevin Herrit, TDOT Zach Johnson, TDOT Jack Qualls, TDOT Nick Weander, TDOT Preston Elliott, RPM Larry Bray, UTK **Mark Burton UTK** David Clarke, UTK Danny Oliver, TDOT Region 1 Ben Price, TDOT Jeff Welch, Knoxville TPO

Opening Comments

Don Loftis welcomed everyone to the meeting and talked about the responsibilities of the FAC.

Toks Omishakin talked about the purpose of the FAC, and how important FAC input is to our Freight Planning efforts. Toks discussed the three things the FAC should be concerned with: what is the plan's vision, the priority list, and freight funding.

Presentations

Alan Jones made a presentation on the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program including what it entails and what grants and partnerships are available to industry. Alan pointed out that the increase in freight could lead to air quality and non-attainment problems. This is what the CMAQ program can address. Alan encouraged participation in the form of applying for available grant money to address CMAQ related problems.

Danny Oliver of the TDOT Region 1 Office discussed projects on the different Interstate corridors within the region. Danny also talked about projects under development and underway on the State Routes in Region 1.

Tennessee Draft State Freight Plan and Project Priorities

Tanisha Hall opened this session by talking about previous TDOT freight studies, the creation of the FACs, and the need to create a MAP-21 compliant freight plan.

One of the FAC members brought up the point that there is not enough attention in the plan to rail issues. Toks assured him that we understand his concerns with that issue, and will try to make sure it is more fully addressed in the plan.

Lee Hutchins of AECOM delivered a PowerPoint presentation that talked about the growth of all areas of freight. Lee then talked about the development of the Tennessee State Freight Plan, and what we had learned from our data analysis and from stakeholder input. Lastly, he went over recommendations and next steps in the process, including the use of a fully operational commodity flow inclusive statewide travel demand model.

Final Remarks

Tanisha Hall thanked everyone for attending and showed a video that had been produced showing the importance of transportation in Tennessee.